Ban on Serving Hard Liquor on Domestic Flights

3905. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to ban serving hard liquor on domestic flights ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Aircraft Rules, 1937 do not prohibit serving of liquor on board of flights.

Profits of Air India

3906. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated profits earned by the Air India during 1993 ; and

(b) whether Air India is able to withstand international competition with other international companies and retain its market ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The accounts of Air India are maintained on financial year basis. The net profit earned by Air India during the period April, 1993 to March, 1994 is estimated to be around Rs. 186 crores.

(b) It is the constant endeavour of the management of Air India to improve its market share through upgradation of services, operation to new destinations and induction of modern aircraft to meet the competition from other carriers.

Vayudoot Flights in North East and U.P.

3907. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to operate Vayudoot flights in North-East region ;

(b) whether such move is to boost tourism in that region ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether Government also propose to operate some of Vayudoot flights to certain places of tourist interest of U.P. to boost tourism in that State ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The services are for providing quick mode of transport to the public in general. This will also boost tourism in the area.

(d) and (e) At present there is no such proposal in view of economic and operational constraints of Vayudoot.

Upgradation of Passenger Facilities by Air India

3908. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3066 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th March, 1994 and state :

(a) what are the details of steps taken by Air India to upgrade passenger facilities ;

(b) whether these steps would increase the earnings of Air India and benefit the passenger community ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) To upgrade passenger facilities both on air and on ground, Air India has taken the following steps :—

(i) Better flight information is being provided and lounges at airports have been upgraded ;

(ii) Quicker service at booking offices is being provided and Check-in areas have been renovated ;

(iii) Inflight meal service and inflight entertainment service have been improved ;

(iv) Multilingual announcements have been introduced.

(b) and (c) All these steps are aimed at extending greater facilities to passengers to enhance their satisfaction. This will help Air India to increase its market share and thereby its revenue.

Air Accidents

3909. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) What is the number and nature of air mishaps and accidents during the last three years, alongwith details of human and property loss in each case ; and

(b) the punishment given to those responsible for air accidents during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The details of accidents during the period from 1991-92 to 1993-94 involving Indian registered aircraft operated by national carriers and Air Taxi Operators and the action taken against those responsible are indicated in the Statement (*See* below). As the aircraft and passengers are insured, the national carrier has not suffered any significant loss.

Statement

	Date	Site	Aircraft	Operator	Fatalities	Action taken
1.	16-8-91	Imphal	B-737	I.A.	69	Both pilot and Co-pilot died in the accident.
2.	4-9-92	Udaipur	B-737	I.A.	1	The pilot and engineer were not held responsible for the incident.
3.	26-4-93	Aurangabad	B-737	I.A.	56	Both pilot and Co-pilot were grounded after the accident.
4.	15-11-93	Tirupati	A-300	I.A.	NIL	Both pilot and Co-pilot were grounded after the accident.
5.	8-3-94	Delhi	B-737	Sahara India	9	The instructor pilot died in the accident.

Participation in Tourism Festival in Berlin

3910. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India had participated in the tourism festival held in Berlin from the 5th to 10th March, 1994 ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the festival and the level of India's participation therein ;

(c) which States of the country were represented ; and

(d) what gains are likely to accrue to the tourism potential of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Internationale Tourismus Borse (ITB) is the biggest Travel Mart in the world in which tourism related organisations participate from all over the world. This year, ITB was attended by 167 countries. It is the only Travel Mart in which the Department of Tourism participates by setting up a National India Pavilion. For ITB-94, the theme of the Pavilion was Rajasthan and it was modelled on the 'Hawa Mahal' of Jaipur. There were 35 booths within the India Pavilion from which 32 Indian tour operators, 4 hotels, 9 State Governments and 2 Airlines operated.

(c) Though India Pavilion promoted the whole country, the State Governments which participated from their own booths or from the Department of Tourism booth are Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Haryana.

(d) Trade Enquiries this year have been extremely encouraging, indicating that there is a lot of interest in Indian Tourism Market, especially for new areas like Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. This is expected to result in an appreciable increase in tourist arrivals to the country.

दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर तोड़-फोड़ की घटनाएं

3911. **श्री सुंदर सिंह भंडारी** : क्या **नागर विमानन और पर्यटन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मार्च, 1994 के अंतिम सप्ताह में दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे पर इंडियन एयरलाइन्स के दो विमानों के फायर सेंसिंग वायर कटे हुए पाए गए थे, यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) गत छः माह के दौरान घटित हुई तोड़-फोड़ की घटनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा ये घटनाएं कहां-कहां घटित हुई;

(ग) क्या ऐसी घटनाओं के संबंध में कोई जांच करायी गयी थी, यदि हां, तो ऐसी घटनाएं घटित होने के क्या कारण हैं; और